

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
SUBJECT	1. Types of Radio Receivers Available 2. Listening to Foreign Broadcasts 3. Captive Radio Audiences	DATE DISTR.	15 April 1953
DATE OF INFO.	[REDACTED] 25X1C	NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED	[REDACTED] 25X1A	REFERENCE NO.	[REDACTED] 25X1A
		REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1X

1. I believe that 80 percent of the radio sets in use in Rumanian homes were capable of receiving foreign broadcasts. The majority of the sets I saw were of German manufacture and although old, they were still serviceable. Some Soviet-manufactured sets with short-wave bands also appeared on the market. These new sets were sold on special authorization to outstanding workers or Party members, however. The demand for new radios in Rumania was great. The old sets were continually being reconditioned. To the best of my knowledge, all radio sets were registered and a certain tax had to be paid by the owners. I do not know how much the tax was. 25X1X
2. I do not believe that the percentage of radio sets capable of receiving foreign broadcasts has decreased since 1948 - 1949. [REDACTED] 25X1X  
tubes could be obtained through clandestine channels and every radio owner guarded his set with utmost care. Even though there were hardly any new radios on the market I estimate that the sets in use at that time will still be satisfactory in 1954-1955. Radio parts were available through private or semi-black market channels. Most of the new tubes were of Hungarian manufacture. There were some small radio repair shops in Bucharest and the owners, if approached cautiously, sold a radio tube or two under the counter.

SECRET

25X1A

STATE#	X	ARMY	#	X	NAVY	#	X	AIR	#	X	FBI		AEC				
--------	---	------	---	---	------	---	---	-----	---	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated By "X"; Field Distribution By "#".)

536

SECRET

-2-

3. In 1952 the only new radios were Soviet-manufactured and were available to Party members or outstanding workers only. Such sets could be purchased at the State Cooperatives. I recall seeing two or three Soviet-made radio sets; one of them was called "PIONER". One of the three sets had short-wave bands; I do not know the price of any of the sets. I also heard of a Rumanian firm called "Radio Popular" which was to produce radio sets in the near future. The firm was in Bucharest.
4. I would estimate that 50 to 60% of the families with radios regularly listened to VOA; 50 to 60% to BBC and 5 to 10% to RFE. I consider four times per week a regular listening rate. Perhaps 80% of the families with radios sporadically listened to one or all three of the radio stations. I also believe that 20 to 25% of the families with radios tuned in religiously to VOA and BBC.
5. Listening to foreign broadcasts was not forbidden by law in Rumania. However, if a person were discovered listening, he would certainly be placed on the black-list of the security force (Securitatea) and would suffer in some manner, such as losing his job or being arrested on some pretext or other.
6. Since 1951, especially during the Spring of 1952, radio jamming in Rumania has been very effective. At times, BBC was completely wiped out and VOA was also heavily jammed. I recall that the VOA Tangier relay station was the best heard of foreign stations. 25X1A
7. Wire speaker (sic) installations existed in all large factories in Bucharest. The speakers were usually tuned to the Bucharest radio station. Almost every factory recreational center (room) was also a group radio listening center. Several wire speakers (about five) were situated in the midtown district of Bucharest. These speakers did not broadcast continually. When they did they either played Rumanian music or gave news summaries.

SECRET